

Uruguay – Colonia

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Uruguay - Colonia GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Uruguay could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Uruguay - Colonia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 1-3 conducted in 2001. A two-stage cluster

sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Colonia. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 89.9%, and the overall response rate was 89.9%. A total of 682 students participated in the Uruguay - Colonia GYTS.

Prevalence

38.0% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 32.4%, Female = 41.2%)
 19.1% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 17.1%, Female = 19.8%)
 16.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 15.1%, Female = 17.1%)
 7.0% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 8.8%, Female = 5.4%)
 19.4% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

10.2% think boys and 9.1% think girls who smoke have more friends
 14.5% think boys and 8.9% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

10.9% usually smoke at home
 62.8% buy cigarettes in a store
 90.3% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

57.9% live in homes where others smoke
 71.3% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 79.5% think smoking should be banned from public places
 70.4% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 47.3% have one or more parents who smoke
 13.2% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

46.0% want to stop smoking
 50.4% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 65.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

87.9% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 89.7% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 81.6% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 16.3% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 17.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

38.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 22.9% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 26.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 19% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 17% currently smoke cigarettes; 7% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is very high – 6 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke; 7 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; almost half have parents who smoke.
- 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Almost 5 in 10 smokers want to stop.
- Almost 9 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Over 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.